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Message Text

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43
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

EB-11 AID-20 DRC-01 /129 W
---------- 124624
R 301035Z NOV 73
FM AMCONSUL DURBAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1616
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DURBAN 0426

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, SF, XA
SUBJ: FIRST VISIT TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES BY HOMELAND LEADER

REF: DURBAN 401; DAR ES SALAAM 3758

1. CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI, CHIEF EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR OF KWA-ZULU, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE AND KEY ASSISTANT IN KWAZULU GOVERNMENT, B. I. DLADLA, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, LEAVE SOUTH AFRICA DECEMBER 1 TO ATTEND AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSITUTE DIALOG CONFERENCE IN ADDIS ABABA DECEMBER 3-7. FOLLOWING CONFERENCE GROUP PLANNING VISIT NIGERIA, KENYA, TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA.

2. INITIAL STRONG SA GOVERNMENT OPPOSITION TO BUTHELEZI'S PROPOSED EXPOSURE TO "ENEMIES OF SOUTH AFRICA" (DURBAN 341) HAS WANED IN FACE HIS INSISTENCE ON GOING AND APPARENT SAG
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DESIRE AVOID SHOWDOWN OVER ISSUE.

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3. COMMENT: THIS VISIT BY BUTHELEZI TO KEY MEMBERS OF OAU DERIVES PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE FROM FACT IT IS FIRST SUCH TRIP EVER TO BE MADE BY A HOMELAND LEADER FROM SOUTH AFRICA. OPINIONS HELD BY LEADERS OF THOSE IMPORTANT COUNTRIES WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE INFLUENCED BY IMPRESSION BUTHELEZI MAKES.

ALTHOUGH HE IS A PERSUASIVE AND ARTICULATE SPOKESMAN AND WILL WORK HARD TO SELL HIS VIEWPOINT, HIS ESSENTIALLY MODERATE STANCE IS NOT IN ACCORD WITH THAT HELD BY MANY INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS. HE WILL HAVE THREE PARTICULAR HANDICAPS TO OVERCOME: (1) CHARGES THAT BY WORKING WITHIN THE SYSTEM OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT (EVEN THOUGH HE CONSTANTLY EMPHASIZES HE DOES SO ONLY TO FORCE MODIFICATIONS IN THE SYSTEM TO BENEFIT ALL SOUTH AFRICAN BLACKS) HE HAS BECOME A "SELL-OUT" TO SAG; (2) HIS OPEN WELCOMING OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA WHICH, ALTHOUGH ALWAYS QUALIFIED BY INSISTENCE FOREIGN FIRMS SHOULD DO MORE FOR AFRICAN WORKERS, RUNS DIRECTLY COUNTER TO POLICY ADVOCATED BY MOST AFRICAN COUNTRIES; AND (3) HIS RECENT OPPOSITION TO OAU-SPONSORED OIL BOYCOTT OF SA AS DETRIMENTAL TO SA BLACKS. IN VIEW IMPORTANCE THIS TRIP ON POSSIBLE FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS EMERGING HOMELANDS WITH INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING POSTS' ASSESSMENTS OF RECEPTION ACCORDED BUTHELEZI AND DEGREE OF SUCCESS HE ACHIEVES.
HOLMES

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